Establishment of Instrumented Test Range in Orissa

38. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: WUl the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to s.ate:

(a) whether Government have recently received a letter from Shri Nilimortj Rounroy, a former Chief Minister of Orissa, regarding establishment of Instrumented Test Range at Baliapal in Orissa, describing therein the merits and demerits in establishing the said Range; and

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister proposes to visik the proposed site to apprise himself of the real facts and the feelings of ihe local people in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SlNGH)- (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Prime Minister is fully aware of the project requirements and also the feelings and problems of the people to be displaced. The decision has been taken after full appreciation of the problems which would be faced by the displaced population and the steps which are proposed lo be taken to rehabilitate them suitably.

Diversion of Central Plan Allocations by Orissa

39. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will ihe PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have allowed the Orissa Government to divert the Central allocations, specifically made and earmarked io be spent on IRDP, NREP, RLEGP and other specific poverty eradication programmes to other programmes like ERRP, etc. if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what action has been taken to stop this diversion of fund*;

(b) what ls the exact amount diverted frota the other programmes originally sanctioned by the Planning Commission to ERRP by the Orissa Government in 1984-85 and 1935-86 and so far in 1986-87; and

(c) whether lhe Centraj Government propose to scrutinise -he fulfilment °f targets of poverty eradication programmes?

THE -MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING ANR MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir. The Central matching grant for IRDP & NREP programmes is released ' after verifying actual expenditure. In. case of RLEGP, IOO per cent reimbureement is made on the basis of actual expendi.ure. Extra funds required for higher subsidy to ERRP beneficiari«s are met from State's own resources.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) From .he current year all plan programmes are to be monitored by the Planning Commission on a quarterly basis with reference to financial and physical targets.

Public resistance to destractiOB «f forests by BALSQ

40. SHRI GAYA CHAND .BHUYAN; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the strong resistance put up ;he people through peaceful satya graha against tbe destruction of forests by BALCO in the historic Gandhamardan Hills in Sambalpur district (Orissa) ;

(b) whether Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard so as to save the ecology and the tribal culture of this area; if so, whal are the details thereof; and

(c) what specific measures Government propose to rake *to* save tbe environment, ecology and the tribai culrure of this area before allow*? BALCO to undertake mining operations in the Gndhamardan Hille?